industrial developpment in the North-East region. This will not go far, I am telling you. Something on a massive scale has to be done. With these few words, I conclude. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): With the permission of the Hosue I would like to interrupt the discussion on the General Budget for the introduction of the Bill called the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, 1995. Thereafter, we will resume the discussion on the General Budget.

THE CRIMINAL LAW AMENDMENT BILL, 1995

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): Madam, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to make special provisions for the prevention of, and for coping with, terrorist and disruptive activities and to supplement the criminal law.

The question was put and the motion was adopted

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Madam, I introduce the Bill.

THE BUDGET (GENERAL), 1995-96—Contd.

SHRI S. MUTHU MANI (Tamil Nadu): Madam, I rise to present my views on the Budget for 1995-96 on behal&of the AIADMK. Just because this year's Budget is not as harsh as the Budget of previous years, our Finance Minsiter and also the Government have been saying that it is a balanced Budget, a welfare Budget and all that. Though the Government could woo the voters by being less harsh, it has no concern for the common man. The Government's plans did not work because the sufferings of the common man continue to be as before. In spite of the claim of the Government of having given several concessions in Excise and customs duty, the price of no commodity has come down. I am surprised; what is the use of such concessions? What has gone wrong? I would like the Finance Minister to tell the House as to how these concessions have helped in reducing the prices of various commodities. I want to know what steps the Government wants to take since these concessions have not helped in reducing the prices of various commodities. I would expect the hon. Finance Minister to explain this paradox.

Madam, now I come to some of the crucial problems which the States are facing because of the indifferent attitude of the Centre. While most of the powers and resources are with the Centre, the onus of looking after the people is lying with the States. The Congress Government has thrown to the winds its election promise to roll back the prices to the level of 1990. Even the prices of essential commodities have risen manifold. The common man does not have the purchasing power. Keeping in view the problems of the common man, our hon. Chief Minsiter, Dr. Puratchithalaivi, has reduced the price of rice from Rs. 3.50 to Rs. 2.50 per kg. from 1.4.1995. The State Government is incurring a huge loss on this account. Lakhs of poor people in our State have been able to make both ends meet because of the distribution of subsidised rice through the PDS. This subsidised rice is especially allocated for the people living in the hilly regions. In all, the Government of Tamil Nadu is incurring a loss of Rs. 600 crores towards the rice subsidy.

Our hon. Chief Minister has been demanding in the meetings of the National Development Council for reducatkm in the price of rice given from the Central pool through the PDS. The Finance Minister has been telling time and again that the prices of wheat, rice and edible oils shall be checked, but the prices of all the essential commodities are sky-rocketing.